

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

FLORIN et al.

Application No.: 60/249,282

Filed: November 17, 2000

Attorney Dkt. No.: 100564-00089

For: A METHOD FOR 3D OBJECT-SCANNING

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

November 15, 2001

Sir:

Prior to initial examination of the application, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 65 as follows:

65. (Amended) An apparatus to implement the method claimed in claim 1, comprising:

a system generating a trapping potential at a desired position zone associated with a first order of magnitude; and

a detection system detecting the positions of at lease one scanning particle which is trapped within the trapping potential and carries out a substantially free three-dimensional motion under the effect of the trapping potential within a scanning volume

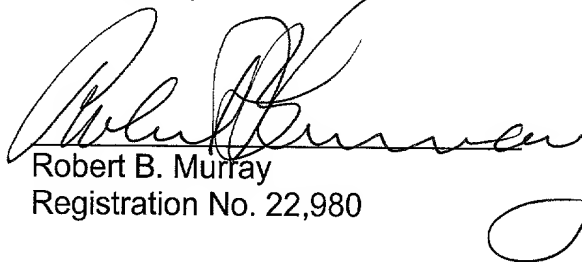
associated with the position zone, the detected positions being associated with a second order of magnitude less than the first order of magnitude.

REMARKS

Claims 1-65 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 65 is amended to delete multiple dependency. No new matter is contained in the amendments.

Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-2300.

Respectfully submitted,



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62. The method according to claim 34, wherein a scanning particle having special interacting properties relative to the object is used.

63. The method according to claim 34, wherein several scanning particles are used within a common trapping potential.

64. The method according to claim 34, wherein the features of the object refer to at least one of the object, the area immediately surrounding the object and the interior of the object.

65. An apparatus to implement the method claimed in ^{claim 1} either one of claims 1 and 34, comprising:

a system generating a trapping potential at a desired position zone associated with a first order of magnitude; and

a detection system detecting the positions of at least one scanning particle which is trapped within the trapping potential and carries out a substantially free three-dimensional motion under the effect of the trapping potential within a scanning volume associated with the position zone, the detected positions being associated with a second order of magnitude less than the first order of magnitude.